

Comparing Proposals to Strengthen Food Stamp Work Requirements for Able-Bodied Adults

	Ages Covered by Work Requirement	Adults with Children Covered?	Geographic Waivers	Discretionary Exemptions	Other Provisions
Current Law, as amended by Fiscal Responsibility Act	Before FRA: 18 to 49. FY 2023: 18 to 50. FY 2024: 18 to 52. FY 2025 - 2030: 18 to 54. FY 2031 and After: 18 to 49.	No. All parents in household with children exempt.	"Area" that "does not have a sufficient number of jobs to provide employment for the individuals." Regulations define as: 20% above national average for a recent 24-month period or a Labor Surplus Area.	8%. Limits rollover of exemptions.	Other exceptions from work requirements through FY 2030: Homeless, Veterans, and Former foster children under age 24.
H.R. 1550/S. 1062 - Jobs and Opportunities for SNAP Act (Rep. Jake LaTurner / Sen. John Kennedy)	18-64	Parent in a household of child under 7 exempt.	Eliminated.	3%. Limits rollover.	Eliminates FRA exemptions for homelessness, veterans, and former foster care.

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H.R. 1581 - America Works Act of 2023 (Rep. Dusty Johnson)	18 - 64	Parent in a household of child under 7 exempt.	Areas 10% or higher.	8% (unchanged). Limits rollover.	Eliminates FRA exemptions for homelessness, veterans, and former foster care.
H.R. 4969 - Ending the Cycle of Dependency Act of 2023 (Rep. Eric Burlison)	18 - 64	Parents in a household of child under 6 exempt.	Eliminated.	Eliminated.	Enacts a lifetime benefit limit of no more than 60 months for able- bodied adults (other than those with children under 6). Eliminates FRA exemptions for homelessness, veterans, and former foster care. Modifications to work registration requirement: 1) expands applicability to age 64; and 2) clarifies that only a primary caretaker of a dependent child may qualify for exemption.



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S. 1188 - SNAP Reform and Upward Mobility Act of 2023 (Sen. Mike Lee)	18 - 63	Parents subjected to work requirement (intends to exempt parents with child 6 and under) Sets combined requirement for both spouses of a married couple with a child over age 6 at 20 hours per week.	10% or higher. Redefines "area" as county or equivalent. Requires county to be in a labor market area with unemployment rate above 10%.	5%.	Phases in 50% state matching requirement for benefits. Ends broad-based categorical eligibility loophole. Expands work registration requirement applicability to age 64. Requires food eligible for purchase be deemed "essential" by USDA. Anti-fraud provisions. Modifies poverty data reporting.



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USDA Rule, finalized but vacated 2019 (Trump Administration)	No change. 18 - 49	No change. All parents in household with children exempt.	Adopts Labor Market Areas to restrict arbitrary combining of "areas." 6% unemployment floor. Limits duration of waiver to 1 year.	Limits carryover to equal to one year's worth.	
Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018, as passed by the House, 115th Congress (Rep. Michael Conaway)	18 - 59	Parent in a household of child under six exempt.	In a state receiving extended, temporary, or emergency unemployment; or "Designated as a Labor Surplus Area;" or Areas 20% higher than national average, with a 6% minimum. No combining jurisdictions, except Labor Market Areas.	15%. After 2026: 12% of covered individuals in 2019.	Many other provisions.



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Sources:

Current Law: 7 USC 2015.

Jobs and Opportunities for SNAP Act: H.R. 1550 and S. 1062, 118th Congress, 1st Session, https://laturner.house.gov/media/press-releases/rep-laturner-introduces-medicaid-snap-work-requirements-legislation (accessed February 3, 2024).

America Works Act of 2023: H.R. 1581, 118th Congress, 1st Session, https://dustyjohnson.house.gov/media/press-releases/johnson-leads-work-requirements-fight-us-house (accessed February 3, 2024).

Ending the Cycle of Dependency Act of 2023: H.R. 4969 118th Congress, 1st Session, https://burlison.house.gov/media/press-releases/burlison-and-brecheen-introduce-america-works-welfare-reform-package (accessed February 3, 2024).

SNAP Reform and Upward Mobility Act of 2023: S. 1188, 118th Congress, 1st Session, https://www.lee.senate.gov/2023/4/lee-introduces-snap-reform-and-upward-mobility-act (accessed February 3, 2024).

Trump Administration Rule: U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service, "Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Requirements for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents," *Federal Register*, 84 FR 66782, 66782-66812, December 5, 2019, https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/12/05/2019-26044/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-requirements-for-able-bodied-adults-without-dependents (accessed January 25, 2024).

Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018: H.R. 2, 115th Congress, 2nd Session, https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/2/text/eh (accessed February 16, 2024).

